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REMARKS OF NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER, PRESIDENT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, IN PRESENTING CERTIFICATE OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACADEMY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE TO AMBASSADOR BRYCE

## Mr. Chairman, Mr. Bryce:

My colleagues have given me the grateful privilege of transmitting to you, sir, this formal certificate to mark the honorary relation in which they are glad to know that you are hereafter to stand to this Academy.

In handing you this document, I find it difficult to withhold one or two personal words. My mind goes back, sir, nearly thirty years to the beginnings of a strong friendship and of that sort of admiration which a younger man is sometimes fortunately permitted to have for his elder, when in your library, first in Bryanston Square and afterwards in Portland Place, we used to spend delightful mornings in discussing public affairs, the movement of public opinion, and the literature of political science and of philosophy. It was then and there that, through your courtesy and kindly hospitality, I had the opportunity and the high privilege of meeting and of coming to know so many of the men who were at that time leading the opinion of the British people and formulating the issues of British politics.

At that time, sir, as you will easily recall, the first bills for the government of Ireland were being drafted and presented for formal consideration. It has taken all the intervening years for the political movements and the political tendencies in which we were then so keenly interested to move forward to the accomplishment of the result which, by the recent vote of the House of Commons, seems now to be substantially assured.

To this personal word, let me add something more. You have stood in a peculiar relation to those of us who are students of public affairs, and especially to those of us who have had some part in the shaping of international opinion and in the conduct of international relations. One of our colleagues at this university, who has the happy and inveterate habit of mix-

ing wit with his wisdom, has said that it was given to you to invent the Holy Roman Empire and to discover the American Commonwealth. We are glad that you have given us the two well-known books on these subjects. But you have done much more than that. Somewhere in your writings—I think it was in your biographical essay on your friend, Lord Acton—you have made a statement which has seemed to me to be very true of yourself, namely, that in estimating the great things of history Lord Acton had not overlooked the significance of the smaller things and so had not lost his sense of proportion in dealing with matters of history and politics.

Let me say, too, with what pleasure some of us have been reading your newest and very illuminating book on South America. One characteristic of that book, in particular, has impressed me, and that is that out of the wealth of your personal knowledge and out of your wide travel in each of the continents of the world you have gained material for comparative and instructive judgments as to mountain ranges, plains, products of the soil, lines and routes of travel—judgments that have made your account of what you have seen in these South American republics by far the most helpful that has yet been written by anyone. In that book not only have you given us a record of what you saw there, but you have given us that record in terms of what you had already so widely seen elsewhere.

Greatly to the regret not only of our government but of our whole people, you are now about to retire from the great post that has been been distinguished by your occupancy. We can let you go, sir, only on the condition that you will devote the years that are to come to illuminating for us some of the dark places that still remain in the public life and thought of the world. We greatly hope that out of your visits to South Africa, to Australia, to Canada, to Latin America, and out of your wide and minute knowledge of the United States, there may yet come a critical study and interpretation of the whole modern democratic movement. We need this study and interpretation of democracy, not only from the point of view of political

institutions, but from that of its personal, its social, and its economic results, together with its effect upon individual human beings and upon the life and progress of humanity as a whole.

You go from us to assume a new honor. You are to be one of the panel of judges representing Great Britain from which is constituted on occasion the great supreme international court of arbitral justice at The Hague, a court which you have labored to establish and in the principles underlying which you profoundly believe. It is grateful to think that the court is to be the forerunner of a number of influential international institutions that shall help bind the nations of the earth together in unity and concord, and to free both men and nations from the crushing burdens of armaments and from the fears and terrors out of which they grow.

And so, sir, in handing you this certificate of membership, I do so on behalf of this company of friends, friends who have become such through knowledge of your personality, through the sympathetic and attentive following of your public career. When you go back to Great Britain to take up the duties that await you there, you carry with you the full weight of the affection and regard of the American people, and of none more than those who are assembled in this room, who have formed the habit of looking up to you as a guide and philosopher, and as a true and well-tried friend.

## REPLY OF AMBASSADOR BRYCE

## Mr. President, Professor Lindsay and Gentlemen:

I can hardly find words to express my sense of the honor you have done me and of the gratification given me, both by the honorary membership in your Academy which has been conferred upon me, and also by the terms in which that has been conveyed to me by my old and valued friend, the president of your university, and by Professor Lindsay.

It would be superfluous for me to attempt to say—because I know that you must feel yourselves—how large a part friendship has had in dictating the words which President Butler has